

Abstract

Methods and compositions are disclosed for controlled addition of components that
decrease the viscosity of the viscoelastic surfactant fluids or for controlled changes in the
5 electrolyte concentration or composition of the viscoelastic surfactant fluids. One aspect
of the invention relates to the use of internal breakers with a delayed activation. Another
aspect of the invention relates to the use of precursors that release a breaking system such
as alcohol by a process such as melting, slow dissolution, reaction with a compound
present in the fluid or added to the fluid during or after the step of injecting, rupture of an
10 encapsulating coating and de-adsorption of a breaking agent absorbed into solid particles.
In another aspect of the invention, alcohols are included in a pad to reduce the low-shear
viscosity and reduce the resistance to flow of the treatment fluids during a desired phase
of the treatment.

SCANNED, # 20